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Page 2

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Inventor: LOUISE E. MOSER; PETER M. MELLAR-SMITH  
Serial No.: 10/631,022  
Filed: JULY 29, 2003  
For: CONSISTENT MESSAGE ORDERING FOR SEMI-ACTIVE AND  
PASSIVE REPLICATION  
Group No.:  
Examiner:  
Docket No.: ETE5342.05A2

**Commissioner for Patents**  
**P.O. Box 1450**  
**Alexandria, VA 22213-1450**

**FIRST PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Dear Sir:

Please amend the above-identified U.S. patent application as follows:

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S/N 10/631,022

Page 1